

**CALIFORNIA STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION**  
**INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS**

**Hearing Date: January 27, 2005**

**Subject Matter of Proposed Regulations: Ten Second Warning**

**Section Affected: Rule 354**

**Specific Purpose of each adoption, amendment, or repeal:**

**Rule 354:**

Existing regulation allows a ten second warning by the timekeeper to the seconds before the beginning and ending of each round. The commission would like to reduce the 10-second warning at the end of each round to a five second warning due to the following reasons:

- When the referee hears the 10-second warning the referee moves into position to separate the boxers. This takes approximately 2 seconds, which places the referee in a precarious position on interfering with the boxers with eight seconds remaining. Most technical fouls occur in the last ten seconds of the round. Also experienced fighters will use the last 10 seconds to plan a strategy for getting in the last punch which usually occurs after the bell. Additionally, the corner workers use the last ten seconds to climb up on the ring apron, which is against the rules.
- The amendment is proposed to eliminate or reduce any improper conduct and/or technical fouls by the participants that occur in the last ten (10) seconds of a round by instructing the timekeeper to issue a warning that the round is about to end when there is only 5 seconds remaining in the round.
- This change would also contribute to eliminating or reducing the amount of time the referee may be in harms way when separating the fighters at the end of the round. The retention of the ten (10) second prior to the beginning of the round gives the corner workers ample time to exit the ring.

**Specific Purpose:**

The specific purpose of this regulatory change is to reduce warning time at the end of the round to eliminate or reduce any improper conduct by any of the boxing participants involved or any possible fouls.

### **Factual Basis**

**Rule 354:** Rule 354 currently allows for a ten second warning by the timekeeper to the seconds before and ending each round. This regulation was originally enacted as a courtesy to the boxers to notify them that the round is almost over. The ten-seconds has been re-evaluated by the commission as it was brought to the commission's attention that the ten-second warning was too long and as a result inappropriate conduct of the boxing participants were taking place. To prevent any unsuitable conduct or inequalities, the ten second language should be amended to be replaced with language that reduces the ten second warning at the end of the round to a five second warning. The ten second warning to begin the round will remain.

### **Underlying Data**

None

### **Business Impact**

This regulation will not have a significant adverse economic impact on businesses.

### **Specific Technologies or Equipment**

This regulation does not mandate the use of specific technologies or equipment.

### **Consideration of Alternatives**

No reasonable alternative which was considered or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of the commission would be either more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed or would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed regulation.